



News Release

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For more information, contact Loren Hill at 336-883-3116

High Point EDC adds five new members

HIGH POINT, NC --- The High Point Economic Development Corporation is welcoming five persons who have joined its board of directors:

- ❑ **Willie Best**, Guilford County Manager – who joined the High Point EDC board as a result of being named to his new position last month;
- ❑ **Doyle Early**, attorney with Wyatt Early Harris Wheeler – appointed by the High Point Partners;
- ❑ **Demetrious Gooden**, Assistant Vice President & Collections Manager, High Point Bank & Trust – appointed by the High Point City Council;
- ❑ **James T. “Jim” White**, President, White Funding, Inc. – appointed by the High Point City Council; and
- ❑ **Richard F. Wood**, Investment Officer / Associate Vice President, First Union Securities – appointed by the High Point City Council.

The 19-member HPEDC board of directors is composed of the High Point mayor, a High Point city council member, the city manager, five city council appointees, six High Point Partners appointees, two High Point Chamber of Commerce appointees, and the three immediate past HPEDC chairmen. In addition, there are nine non-voting liaison members.

The High Point City Council made its five appointments this morning. In addition to appointing Gooden, White, and Wood, the City Council also reappointed two persons for another two-year term:

- Hoyt Almond, Senior Vice President & High Point City Executive, BB&T; and
- Joanna Easter, Chief Operating Officer, Showplace.

Coy Williard of Williard-Stewart, Inc., is the chairman of the board for the High Point Economic Development Corporation, and Loren Hill is the president. The HPEDC is a public-private economic development organization whose mission is to:

- Retain and expand existing business & industry in the City of High Point,
- Attract new businesses to locate in High Point and the Piedmont Triad, and
- Encourage the creation of head-of-household jobs for area residents.

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